

In January 2009, strategic direction on how the nation would deploy missile defenses in Europe directed a renewed focus on the ballistic missile threat from the Middle East to our NATO European allies. General O'Reilly was called upon to work with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), and the Department of State to develop and implement a four phased plan for the deployment of the European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA).

His work resulted in a unique solution to phase and convert shipped-based SM-3 missiles for land-based use. In December 2011, General O'Reilly and the Missile Defense Agency achieved a historical milestone by issuing a technical declaration for EPAA Phase 1 in December 2011. As a result, the United States has now successfully deployed a command and control battle management system in Germany and a forward-based radar in Turkey, and has assigned an Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) ship to patrol the Eastern Mediterranean Sea.

During his tenure, his organization further completed BMD installations on 11 Aegis warships, including the upgrade of three ships from 3.6 to 4.0.1, giving them a ballistic missile defense capability utilizing the most capable interceptors available. During this time the Aegis BMD program delivered 66 SM-3 IA interceptors and four SM-3 IBs for flight testing. At the tactical level, he oversaw the delivery of the United States Army's first two operational THAAD batteries, initiated production of two additional THAAD batteries, and managed the delivery of 51 THAAD interceptors to meet the needs of our Combatant Commanders and the needs of our allies.

General O'Reilly's missile defense vision extended far beyond the current set of fielded and planned capabilities. During his tenure, the nation witnessed the Airborne Laser Test Bed (ALTB) demonstrate revolutionary technology by achieving two historic shoot-downs of two short-range ballistic missile targets using directed energy technology. He also advocated and began program implementation to provide Precision Tracking Space System satellites to one day provide persistent overhead coverage from space as well as birth to death tracking of enemy ballistic missiles.

Mr. Speaker, these are but a few of the many accomplishments in General O'Reilly's storied and distinguished career. As I reviewed his experiences and contributions, I am reminded that his career has made national security history, and that he has also provided a vision for future generations of military officers.

I also believe all distinguished careers are helped, aided, and encouraged by friends and family. As a nation we also owe a debt of gratitude to General O'Reilly's wife, Judith, and his two daughters, Siobhan and Brigid. General O'Reilly and family, thank you for your service to God and Country. General O'Reilly, you have held true to your West Point Class of 1978 motto—"Proud and Great '78."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAMES M.
NAUGHTON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of newsman James M.

Naughton who died at the age of 73 from complications of prostate cancer. He is survived by his wife Diana, three daughters, one son, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Naughton was born in Painesville, Ohio and earned his college degree from the University of Notre Dame while working summers at the local newspaper, The Painesville Telegraph. Upon his graduation in 1960, he served as a lieutenant in the Marine Corps for two years. In 1962, Naughton found himself back in Ohio writing about politics and urban affairs for the Cleveland Plain Dealer—a job he held for seven years.

From 1969 to 1977, Mr. Naughton worked at the New York Times as a White House and national correspondent covering the Nixon, Ford and Carter eras. During his tenure on the Times, he covered such stories as when Senator Muskie emotionally responded to a New Hampshire newspaper's attack aimed at his wife, former Vice President Agnew's admission of tax evasion in order to avoid bribery charges, and the Congressional impeachment hearings that arose out of the Nixon Watergate scandal. He later served as executive editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer during the time they earned 18 Pulitzers in 17 years, and from 1996 to 2003, Naughton served as the President of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, FL where he eventually retired.

Jim Naughton was a "prank loving" reporter with a witty spirit. He was known for showing up to a presidential news conference wearing the head of a chicken costume, and often placed a wide variety of animals in his colleagues' offices; he always believed such a mischievous spirit provided for an atmosphere of creativity and cohesion.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life and achievements of James M. Naughton.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office; the national debt was \$ 10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$ 16,020,975,194,914.83. We've added \$5,394,098,146,001.80 dollars to our debt in 3½ years. This is \$5.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 579 had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS KITO KAJUAN WILKINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Sergeant First Class Kito Kajuan Wilkins, who will be retiring from the US Army's 3rd Infantry Division, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade.

Originally from Anniston, Alabama, Wilkins entered the Army in 1992. Upon graduation from boot camp, he became a Bradley Vehicle Driver at Fort Benning, Georgia. Soon after, he became a Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant in Illesheim, Germany. From 1999–2002, he was stationed in Fort Hood, where he served as a Technical Inspector. After serving as a recruiter in San Antonio, Wilkins was deployed to Iraq to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. After his deployment to Iraq, Wilkins served in Fort Eustis, Virginia as an Instructor. From 2008–2010, he was stationed at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, as a Platoon Sergeant and Section Chief. Currently, his duty location is Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia. While stationed there he has deployed to Pakistan, where he took part in the Pakistani Humanitarian Mission Flood Relief, and Afghanistan, where he served his final deployment.

Because of his dedication to our country, SFC Wilkins has received countless awards. These include: 7 Army Accommodation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals, six Army Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, one Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, one Global War on Terror Service Medal, one Silver Recruiter Badge and one Basic Marksmanship Qualification Badge.

In addition to his dutiful service to our country, SFC Wilkins is a tireless volunteer. He has logged over 1,500 volunteer community service hours teaching youth football, basketball and soccer. Because of his volunteer efforts, Wilkins has received two Humanitarian Service Medals, a Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, an Army Service Ribbon and two Overseas Service Ribbons.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincerest gratitude to SFC Wilkins, a true American hero, for his service to our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 89TH ANNUAL FEAST OF ST. WENCESLAUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland on the occasion of their 89th Annual Feast of St. Wenceslaus on September 29, 2012 at St. John Nepomucene Parish.

St. Wenceslaus is the patron saint of the Czech Republic. Every year, his feast day, September 28th, is celebrated by Czech communities around the world. St. Wenceslaus was the leader of Old Bohemia during the